



“Sanskrit: In vedic era and in today’s era”

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Abstract- Sanskrit is the most ancient language and perfect among the great languages in the world. It is the greatest treasure given to the world by ancient India. Sanskrit is universally recognized as the language containing the earliest literature in the world. Sanskrit literature is an ocean that contains many pearls of wisdom. It is the source for Vedas, Sastrams, Kavyams and is the language of gods. “Sanskrit language, as has been universally recognized by those competent to form a judgment, is one of the most magnificent, the most perfect, the most prominent and wonderfully sufficient literary instrument developed by the human mind.” In *today’s* so-called *modern*, fast paced, materialistic *world*, people are often disinclined towards the classical Indo-European language *Sanskrit*.

Keywords: ancient language, Sanskrit.

I. INTRODUCTION

Sanskrit is a classical language of the Indo-Aryan branch of the Indo-European languages. Sanskrit is India’s gift to the world that is unparalleled in its perfection and preciseness. It is regarded as the mother of all modern languages and historians often call it the “perfect language”. This is not without reason as Sanskrit is a language that has the greatest number of letters and aksharas compared to any other language. Sanskrit not only helps us to envision the past but also opens new vistas for viewing the grand future of our nation. It is a binding force with the notion of ‘one nation - one idea’.

II. BENEFITS OF SANSKRIT LANGUAGE: -

A Beautiful Language: -

Sanskrit grammar offers a beautifully clear structure as was recognized by Indian grammarians over 2,500 years ago. The script it is written in was designed especially for it and allows us to know with great certainty how it was pronounced.

A Language of Impeccable Credentials: -

Knowledge of Sanskrit is highly respected by the academic community. It often forms a point of interest and admiration when students with Sanskrit qualifications are interviewed for university admission. Mastering the intricacies of Sanskrit grammar brings with its great insight into language structures in general.

A Further View of The World: -

Sanskrit literature offers an expansive view of human nature and its role in creation. In this era of unprecedented change and uncertainty, it can be a valuable tool to assess and look afresh at society.

Sanskrit literature embodies a comprehensive map of the human makeup: spiritual, emotional, mental and physical. Its philosophical literature presents a clearly structured way of understanding our relationship to the rest of creation and lays out guidelines on how to live life well. Playwrights and poets have skillfully crafted the language to offer timeless insights into the human mind.

An Indo-European Language: -

Sanskrit stands close to the root of English and most other European languages, classical and modern. Many English words are related to words and word forms that also exist in Sanskrit. Its study illuminates their grammar and etymology.

Sanskrit in Vedic Era: -

Sanskrit is the primary sacred language of Hinduism, and has been used as a philosophical language in the religions of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. Vedic Sanskrit is the language of the Vedas, the most ancient Hindu scriptures. The Vedas contain hymns, incantations called Samhitas, and theological and philosophical guidance for priests of the Vedic religion.

Vedic Sanskrit was orally preserved as a part of the Vedic chanting tradition, predating alphabetic writing in India by several centuries. Modern linguists consider the metrical hymns of the Rigveda Samhita, the most ancient layer of text in the Vedas, to have been composed by many authors over several centuries of oral tradition.

Panini's Astadhyayi is the most important of the surviving texts of Vyakarana, the linguistic analysis of Sanskrit, consisting of eight chapters laying out his rules and their sources. Through this standardization, Panini helped create what is now known as Classical Sanskrit.

Poetry was also a key feature of this period of the language. Kalidasa was the foremost Classical Sanskrit poet, with a simple but beautiful style.

Sanskrit in Present Era: -

Sanskrit is a very important language. It is the oldest and most sacred language in this world. There are only less people who use it in their daily life. Sanskrit Language has been the most important medium in lending continuity to Indian civilization.

In Independent India it is listed among the languages of the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution though it is not the official language of any state.

Works of Sanskrit literature, such as the Yoga-Sutras of Patanjali, which are still consulted by practitioners of yoga today, and the Upanishads, a series of sacred Hindu treatises, were translated into Arabic and Persian. Sanskrit fairy tales and fables were characterized by ethical reflections and proverbial philosophy, with a particular style making its way into Persian and Arabic literature and exerting influence over such famed tales as One Thousand and One Nights, better known in English as Arabian Nights.

Computers require algorithmic programming and scientific research has found Sanskrit to be the perfect language for this purpose. Its preciseness and variety owe to this research.

Sanskrit is one language that can convey the biggest word meanings, quantitatively and qualitatively in the least number of words. Owing to the abundance of words and preciseness of letters, it is most expressive. It is sometimes called the "poems of everyday life".

III. CONCLUSION: -

One of the oldest Indo-European languages for which substantial documentation exists, Sanskrit is believed to have been the general language of the greater Indian Subcontinent in ancient times. It is still used today in Hindu religious rituals, Buddhist hymns and chants, and Jain texts.

Sanskrit is vital to Indian culture because of its extensive use in religious literature, primarily in Hinduism, and because most modern Indian languages have been directly derived from, or strongly influenced by, Sanskrit. Knowledge of Sanskrit was a marker of social class and educational attainment in ancient India.

Further, Sanskrit is recognized in the constitution of India as both a classical language and an official language and continues to be used in scholarly, literary, and technical media, as well as in periodicals, radio, television, and film.

Sanskrit remains highly relevant in today's times and would continue to remain a source of inspiration for future human endeavors in varied fields. We need to be proud of Sanskrit and appreciate its immense contributions by learning, appreciating, nurturing and spreading it.

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